

**Action points and information points arising from the Wales Biodiversity Enclosed
Farmland Ecosystem Group (EFEG)**

17th July 2014, 1st floor conference room VC, Ladywell House, Newtown, 10.45-3.30 pm

Chair:	Clare Burrows (CB)	Natural Resources Wales
Present:	Alun Davies (AD) Rachel Palmer (RP) Sarah Hetherington (SH) Sarah Slater (SS)	Natural Resources Wales Keep Wales Tidy Natural Resources Wales Flintshire County Council
Minutes:	Jane Stevens (JS)	Natural Resources Wales
Apologies:	Afon Williams Carwyn ap Myrddin Cath Shellswell Rosie Carmichael Helen Buckingham Liz Lewis-Reddy	RSPB Snowdonia National Park Plantlife Carmarthenshire County Council National Trust Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust

WBP update

AP 1: Circulate consultation document when available in September (CB).

IP 1: Deadline for submitting project proposals to the Nature Fund is November 2014. Contact Steve Spode if interested in putting in a bid outside the seven Nature Action Zones. Events for people to come together and explore potential for collaborative working are happening this month <http://wales.gov.uk/topics/environmentcountryside/consmanagement/natural-resources-management/nature-fund/?lang=en>

IP 2: The 2014 annual WBP conference is going to be held in Cardiff University from 10-11 September. The theme is 'Nature Recovery Planning in Wales – implementation approach to 2020'. Booking details will be posted on the WBP website shortly. <http://www.biodiversitywales.org.uk/97/en-GB/Wales-Biodiversity-Partnership-Conference>

Habitat updates - Hedgerows

IP 3: NRW has a digital map of hedgerows in Wales generated from satellite imagery interpretation (2006 imagery). Contact CB for details.

IP 4: Keep Wales Tidy are currently applying funding to continue the Long Forest Project in Brecon Beacons and expand into other areas in north and south Wales.

Habitat updates - Orchards

AP 3: Give SS contact for orchards project (CB).

AP 4: Circulate report from the recently completed PTES project to create an inventory of orchards in Wales (CB).

IP 4b: Update from Liz Lewis-Reddy: 'MWT has dedicated part of our NRW Partnership funding to a project which may be of interest: Montgomeryshire's Orchards Project. Following on from the great work done by PTES to identify Welsh orchards, we propose collaborating with them to ground-truth as many in Montgomeryshire as we can, using PTES' new apps and by encouraging volunteer engagement. The surveys are straightforward and quick, so landowner permission is likely to be the hardest part. Great scope for volunteer, schools & landowner engagement, as well as raising awareness of orchards, pollinators, etc. with the general public, membership, etc. The work done this year is likely to identify works which can be done to revive derelict orchards, as well as setting up a local orchard group/Private Nature Reserves network. Very much see this as a starter project which could be developed and expanded over the coming years.' Liz is happy to field any questions or comments on this project.

Habitat updates - Arable

AP 5: Circulate the identification leaflet produced by Plantlife as part of the project to identify important arable plant areas (CB).

AP 6: Establish what current guidance is available to Local Authorities on species selection / seed provenance for road side verge plantings (SS).

AP 7: Raise the issue of seed provenance when planting for pollinators with John Watkins (SH).

AP 8: Establish what options for arable margins are to be included in Glastir advanced (SH).

Habitat updates - Ffridd

IP 5: The proposal to adopt ffridd as a Section 42 habitat has been accepted by the WBP steering group with the proviso that a definition of ffridd is provided. The working group set up to agree a definition has produced a draft which CB would like to circulate to the EFEG for comment.

AP 9: Circulate the draft definition of ffridd to all for comment (CB).

Research gap update

AP 10: Review the evidence gaps that are identified for enclosed farmland in the Evidence Gaps Register (<http://www.biodiversitywales.org.uk/25/en-GB/WBP-Evidence-Gaps-Project>). Send thoughts to CB on which of these should be given priority (All).

Presentation on the Long Forest Project

AP 11: Circulate leaflets on protected species and orchards (SS).

AP 12: Circulate the Pontbren Project paper on farmer's experiences by Sophie Wynne-Jones (AD).

AP 13: Supply an electronic copy of the hedgerow information pack produced by Keep Wales Tidy to go onto the Welsh part of the Hedgelink website (RP/CB).

Discussion on hedgerow actions

AP 14: Supply contact for local Farming Connect facilitator (SH).

AP 15: Request end of August slot in NFU/FUW magazine for a hedgerow management article (SH).

AP 16: Discuss with Helen the idea of a hedgerow theme for the NRW stand at the 2015 Royal Welsh Show (CB).